

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**

Meeting of the Commission
December 11, 2013
11:00 a.m.

James R. Thompson Center
Murdock Room - IDHS
Suite 5-300
100 West Randolph Street
Chicago, IL 60601

and

Lincoln Land Training Center
130 W. Mason Street
Room 104
Springfield, Illinois

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Commissioners

In Chicago

Martin Castro, Chairman
Marti Baricevic
Robert A. Cantone
Terry Cosgrove
David Chang
Merri Dee
Nabi Fakroddin
Lauren Beth Gash
Rozanne Ronen
David J. Walsh
Diane M. Viverito
Patricia Bakalis Yadgir

In Springfield

None

Absent

None

Staff

Reva Bauch
LaNade Bridges
N. Keith Chambers
Dr. Ewa Ewa
Michael Evans
Donyelle L. Gray

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

En Banc Minutes – December 11, 2013
Page 2 of 4

Evelio Mora
Christine M. Welninski
Byron Wardlaw
Jessica Katlin (Coles Fellow)
Mia Mayberry (Coles Fellow), via telephone

Members of Public: None

NOTICE:

Public and closed meetings of the Illinois Human Rights Commission are audio-recorded.

I. Call to Order

On December 11, 2013 at 11:15 a.m., Chairman Castro called to order a meeting of the Illinois Human Rights Commission.

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., it was determined that:

- 1) A quorum of the public body was present at the meeting.

II. Consideration of Minutes

November 20, 2013

The Commission voted to approve the minutes of the November 20, 2013 meeting as submitted by staff. Motion to approve the minutes of November 20, 2013 made by Commissioner Nabi and seconded by Commissioner Walsh. Motion carried with 11 in favor, and 1 abstention by Chairman Castro because he had been absent from the November 20, 2013 meeting.

III. Chairman's Report

In response to Commissioner Nabi's inquiry regarding the McHenry County Sheriff's Office and reported concerns about possible racial profiling of motorists, Chairman Castro reported that the Sheriff's Office was working with the Attorney General's office to address the issue, and that members of the Sheriff's Office had also attended training given by the IL Department of Human Rights.

IV. Staff Reports

A. *N. Keith Chambers, Executive Director*

Mr. Chambers reported that the audit findings that had been reported on at the prior meeting were being addressed by HRC staff.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

En Banc Minutes – December 11, 2013
Page 3 of 4

Mr. Chambers reported that he had contacted the Office of Chief Judge Timothy Evans of the Circuit Court of Cook County to try to determine how many matters filed under the Illinois Human Rights Act were being referred to the Circuit Court. Mr. Chambers has not received a definitive answer as of yet, and he will continue to follow-up with the matter.

Mr. Chambers reported that he was working on the final draft of the HRC annual report. The final draft will be finished by mid-January.

Mr. Chambers announced that attorney Barry Miller has been selected as the new Executive Director of the Illinois Torture Inquiry and Relief Commission.

Mr. Chambers announced that he made an appearance on Chicagoland T.V. and spoke about the work of the HRC.

Mr. Chambers announced that there was no movement with the HRC budget and that the pension issues were resolved by the General Assembly.

B. Dr. Ewa I. Ewa, Chief Fiscal Officer

Dr. Ewa reported that the HRC is doing very well budgetwise.

Dr. Ewa requested that all outreach be reported to him so that it may be reflected in the HRC statistics.

Dr. Ewa reported that 90% of the audit issues have been addressed and resolved.

C. Michael J. Evans, Chief Administrative Law Judge

Chief Administrative Law Judge Evans gave the report for the Chief Administrative Law Judge for the month of November 2013. Judge Evans reported that nine (9) complaints had been filed in November. Judge Evans further reported that the intake numbers continue to drop.

D. Donyelle Gray, General Counsel

Ms. Gray acknowledged the Fall 2013 Coles Fellows, Jessica Katlin and Mia Mayberry.

V. New Business

A report of the Ad Hoc Outreach Committee was given. The Commission voted to make the Ad Hoc Outreach Committee a permanent standing committee of the Commission. Motion made by Commissioner Nabi, seconded by Commissioner Viverito, Motion carried 12-0. Commissioner Gash was selected as Chair of the Outreach Committee.

STATE OF ILLINOIS
Human Rights Commission

En Banc Minutes – December 11, 2013
Page 4 of 4

Chairman Castro presented Fall 2013 Coles Fellows Jessica Katlin and Mia Mayberry with Certificates of Recognition, signed by the Governor, for their service.

VI. Unfinished Business

None

VIII. Public Comment

Pursuant to the Illinois Open Meetings Act, 5 ILCS 120/1 et seq., the Chairman asked if any members of the public were present and wished to make public comments.

No members of the public were present.

IX. Executive Session

None

X. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 p.m. Motion made by Commissioner Nabi, seconded by Commissioner Dee. Motion carried 12-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Donyelle L. Gray
General Counsel